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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (571) 273-8300, on the date shown below.

Dated: August 17, 2006

Signature:

Peter Yim
(Peter Yim)

Patent
Docket No. 509982005700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Joerg BISCHOFF et al.

Serial No.: 10/696,246

Filing Date: October 28, 2003

For: AZIMUTHAL SCANNING OF A
STRUCTURE FORMED ON A
SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER

Examiner: S. Nguyen

Group Art Unit: 2877

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 & 1.98**

MS RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicants submit for consideration in the above-identified application the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08a/b. The Examiner is requested to make these documents of record.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☐ With the application; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required.
- ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination under § 1.114.

Application No. 10/696,246
Information Disclosure Statement

2

Docket No. 509982005700

- ☐ Within three months of the application filing date or before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; accordingly, no fee or separate requirements are required. However, if applicable, a certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e)(1) has been provided.
- ☐ After receipt of a first Office Action on the merits but before mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ A fee is required. A check in the amount of ___ is enclosed.
- ☐ A fee is required. Accordingly, a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above; accordingly; no fee is believed to be due.
- ☐ After mailing of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a check in the amount of ___ is enclosed.
- ☐ A Certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is provided above and a Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17 is attached to this submission in duplicate.)

Applicants would appreciate the Examiner initialing and returning the Form PTO/SB/08a/b, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

The information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98 is not to be construed as a representation that: (i) a complete search has been made; (ii) additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist; (iii) the information, protocols, results and the like reported by third parties are accurate or enabling; or (iv) the above information constitutes prior art to the subject invention.

sf-2173619

Application No. 10/696,246
Information Disclosure Statement

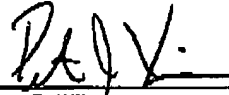
3

Docket No. 509982005700

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief (such as payment of a fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p)) is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petition and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing 509982005700.

Dated: August 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Peter J. Yin

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sf-2173619

AUG 17 2006

ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Complete if Known			
		Application Number	10/898,246		
		Filing Date	October 28, 2003		
		First Named Inventor	Joerg BISCHOFF		
		Art Unit	2877		
		Examiner Name	S. Nguyen		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	509982005700

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number/Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1.	US-6,785,638	08-31-2004	Niu et al.	
	2.	US-6,891,626	05-10-2005	Niu et al.	
	3.	US-6,943,900	09-13-2005	Niu et al.	
	4.	US-2004/0267397	12-30-2004	Doddi	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ² -Number ³ /Kind Code ⁴ (if known)			

*EXAMINER: Initial if information considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 808. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 808. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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sf-2173617